



Maricopa County

News Release

Environmental Services Department

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NATIONAL DRINKING WATER WEEK MARKS SAFETY OF OUR DRINKING WATER

This year marks the 35th Anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act that forms the core of national efforts to provide quality drinking water and protect the health of our citizens. From May 3-9, we also celebrate National Drinking Water Week – a national observance that highlights the value of water to each of us in our everyday lives.

“In Maricopa County, over 3,000,000 people are served daily by more than 130 public drinking water systems, ranging in size from a drinking fountain at a roadside rest area to a large metropolitan drinking water system”, says John Power, director Maricopa County Environmental Services Department.

National Drinking Water Week lets all residents of Maricopa County celebrate the safety and quality of the public water supplied to their homes, businesses and schools. Tap water here is safe to drink. Your public water system operators are at work every day to ensure that the drinking water they produce and distribute remains safe and reliable.

As the agency delegated by the State of Arizona for enforcement of Safe Drinking Water Act regulations in Maricopa County, the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department ensures that public water facilities are designed, constructed and operated to meet all regulatory requirements.

“Our team of environmental health specialists and engineers monitors public water system compliance”, says Kevin Chadwick, Water and Waste Division Manager with the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department.

“We want to keep your drinking water safe. This week, please join us in celebrating the importance of safe drinking water piped to our home, schools and workplaces”.

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The tasks facing public water systems continue to be extremely challenging – especially in an era of scarce resources. The drinking water infrastructure in many cities is aging and presents daunting resource demands.

As a nation, we continue to be challenged by new and emerging drinking water contaminants associated with our industrial society. These efforts are vital to Arizona's economy and to the public health of our citizens.

National Drinking Water Week recognizes the importance of water source protection and conservation, as well as the value, importance, and fragility of our state's water resources.

"Today, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department renews its commitment to build on the successes of the past and to continue to work with all of our partners in the water community to fully realize the public health goals of the Safe Drinking Water Act through celebrating National Drinking Water Week", says the department's director, John Power.

For more information please visit: www.maricopa.gov/envsvc or call Maricopa County Environmental Services Department at: 602-506-6616.

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